

THE  
ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER  
MUSEUM, INCORPORATED  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT  
1952







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Lillian Stuart Gardner



The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

INCORPORATED

# Annual Report

for the year 1952



BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

1953





THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER  
MUSEUM, INCORPORATED

Sole Trustee under the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner



FRANCIS LEE HIGGINSON, *President*

GEORGE PEABODY GARDNER, *Vice-President*

JEROME D. GREENE, *Secretary and Treasurer*

TRUSTEES

FRANCIS LEE HIGGINSON

ARTHUR POPE

THOMAS JEFFERSON COOLIDGE

RICHARD C. PAINE

JEROME DAVIS GREENE

GEORGE PEABODY GARDNER

JAMES LAWRENCE, JR.

DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM

MORRIS CARTER

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

WILLIAM NORRIS MASON

EDITH M. SPELLMAN	<i>Secretary</i>
EVELYN BURR	<i>Secretary</i>
WILLIAM J. IRELAND	<i>Superintendent</i>
PATRICK T. NILAND	<i>Assistant Superintendent</i>
ALFRED JAKSTAS	<i>Conservator</i>
BESSIE B. SABEAN	<i>Keeper of Textiles</i>
JOSEPH B. PRATT	<i>Photographer</i>
JOHN F. SULLIVAN	<i>Head Gardener at Greenhouse</i>
J. ANDREW MADDEN	<i>Head Gardener at Museum</i>

## NOTE

The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, was incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, December 19, 1900, Mrs. Gardner's sole beneficial ownership of the works of art held by this corporation being represented by stock. (*For the Certificate of Incorporation see p. 6 and for a copy of an Act of 1925 authorizing the corporation to hold additional real and personal estate, see p. 7.*)

The Will and Codicil of Isabella Stewart Gardner probated July 22, 1924, gave to Trustees all her land in Boston including Fenway Court and the land adjacent thereto, and her works of art, or her interest therein as represented by stock of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated. (*For the relevant provisions of the Will and Codicil see p. 8.*)

On November 23, 1936, the Trustees then surviving executed an Agreement of Association with the intention of forming a corporation under Chapter 180 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth (*see p. 11*). A certificate of Incorporation was granted on December 23, 1936, as of the date of the said Agreement (*see p. 13*). An Act authorizing the corporation to hold additional real and personal estate was approved March 23, 1937 (*see p. 14*).

The Trustees under the Will having resigned upon the formation of the corporation, The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated, was on December 24, 1936, appointed by the Probate Court of Suffolk County, sole Trustee of the estate theretofore held in trust by the individual Trustees. (*For the Certificate of the Probate Court, see p. 15.*)

By an Act of the General Court of the Commonwealth approved May 14, 1943, the real estate in Boston of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Inc., was exempted from taxation as from January 1, 1943. (*For the Act see page 16.*)

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Be it known** *That whereas* John Chipman Gray, Isabella Stewart Gardner, Henry Walton Swift, Harold Jefferson Coolidge, Charles L. Pierson, Willard Thomas Sears, and William Amory Gardner have associated themselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the name of

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM  
IN THE FENWAY, INCORPORATED

for the purpose of art education, especially by the public exhibition of works of art, with a capital of Fifty Thousand Dollars, and have complied with the provisions of the Statutes of the Commonwealth in such case made and provided, as appears from the certificate of the President, Treasurer, Secretary and Director of the said Corporation, duly approved by the Commissioner of Corporations and recorded in this office:

**Now, Therefore,** I, William M. Olin, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, **Do Hereby Certify** that said John Chipman Gray, Isabella Stewart Gardner, Henry Walton Swift, Harold Jefferson Coolidge, Charles L. Pierson, Willard Thomas Sears, and William Amory Gardner, their associates and successors, are legally organized and established as and are hereby made an existing corporation under the name of

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM  
IN THE FENWAY, INCORPORATED

with the powers, rights, and privileges, and subject to the limitations, duties and restrictions which by law appertain thereto.

**Witness** my official signature hereunto subscribed, and the seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hereunto affixed this nineteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred.

[Seal]

WM. M. OLIN,  
*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*



# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

*Acts of 1925 — Chapter 198*

**An Act** to authorize THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM IN THE FENWAY, INCORPORATED, to hold additional real and personal estate and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM IN THE FENWAY, INCORPORATED, a charitable institution organized under the general laws relating to charitable corporations, may hold real and personal estate to an amount not exceeding eight million dollars, including the amount it is already authorized to hold by section nine of chapter one hundred and eighty of the general laws, which estate shall be devoted to the purposes of said institution, as provided in said section nine, so that through its agency may be carried on the endowed Museum given under the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner for the education and enjoyment of the public forever.

*Approved March 30, 1925.*

EXCERPTS FROM THE WILL AND CODICIL  
OF  
ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER

Dated May 9, 1921: Probated July 23, 1924

THIRD: 1. To Harold J. Coolidge, Grafton D. Cushing, William C. Endicott, Francis L. Higginson, Jr., and Arthur F. Johnson, all of Boston, and to said Arthur Pope, and to Henry D. Sleeper of Gloucester, and the survivors and survivor of them, and the heirs of the survivor, I devise all the land which I own in Boston, and especially the land comprising my estate known as Fenway Court, and my land adjacent thereto, situated on the Fenway, the Tremont entrance to the Fenway Park, and Worthington Street, which tract includes the lots conveyed to me by deeds of Augustus P. Loring, dated January 31, 1899, and June 13, 1899, recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 2620, *Fol.* 107 and 109; deed of Moses Williams *et al.*, Trustees, dated February 26, 1900, recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 2667, *Fol.* 306; deed of Henry M. White, dated January 1, 1901, recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 2728, *Fol.* 25; deed of Moses Williams *et al.*, Trustees, dated June 16, 1906, recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 3136, *Fol.* 170; deed of Paul and Rachel S. Thorndike, acknowledged March 22, 1907, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 3197, *Fol.* 493; deed of Charles Paine, dated November 20, 1911, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 3589, *Fol.* 232, and deed of Moses Williams *et al.*, Trustees, dated January 8, 1913, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds, *Lib.* 3700, *Fol.* 631, with the buildings thereon, and I also bequeath to the said Coolidge, Cushing, Endicott, Higginson, Johnson, Pope and Sleeper, and the survivors and survivor of them, and the

representatives of the survivor, all my interest in the pictures, statuary, works of art, bric-a-brac, furniture, books and papers, contained at my death in all the stories of the main building of said Fenway Court other than the fourth story and the attic, and also in or upon the grounds adjoining said building, and all such articles as are above mentioned wherever situated intended or destined to be contained in these stories other than the fourth story and the attic, including all the property in which I own the beneficial interest through my ownership of all the shares of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, all the aforesaid real and personal property to be held by said Coolidge, Cushing, Endicott, Higginson, Johnson, Pope and Sleeper, in trust as a Museum for the education and enjoyment of the public forever, but no works of art shall be placed therein for exhibition other than such as I, or the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, own or have contracted for at my death. And I direct that, if any question arises as to what is intended or destined for said stories other than the fourth story and the attic, the judgment of my Executors or Executor shall be final.

2. Whereas in the foregoing paragraph I have bequeathed all my interest in certain personal property, and whereas the legal title to it or to a portion of it is in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, and whereas it is my intention that all the property of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, shall be and remain in the Museum established under this will, now, therefore, I give and bequeath all my shares in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, to said Coolidge, Cushing, Endicott, Higginson, Johnson, Pope and Sleeper, to be held in trust



for the purposes of the Museum established under this will, I hereby directing the Trustees so to hold and manage said shares that all the property of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, shall be and remain forever in the Museum established under this will subject to all the provisions of this will relating to the Museum so established. And I authorize the said Trustees, as the holders of all the shares of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in the Fenway, Incorporated, to procure its dissolution, and the transfer and delivery of all its property to them as Trustees to be held in trust for the purposes of the Museum established under this will in accordance with all the provisions of this will relating to said Museum.

3. I also give to the said Coolidge, Cushing, Endicott, Higginson, Johnson, Pope and Sleeper, and the survivors and survivor of them, and the representatives of the survivor, the sum of one million two hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000) in trust to apply the income of it to maintain the Museum established under this will in accordance with all the provisions of this will.

# AGREEMENT OF ASSOCIATION

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### DEPARTMENT OF CORPORATIONS AND TAXATION

We, whose names are hereto subscribed, do, by this agreement, associate ourselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the provisions of Chapter 180 of the General Laws (Ter. Ed.).

The name by which the corporation shall be known is

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED.

The location of the principal office of the corporation to be in Massachusetts is the City of Boston.

The purposes for which the corporation is formed are as follows: —

To conduct the museum established by the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner and otherwise to carry out the charitable purposes contained in said will, and incidentally thereto to act in any manner under said will with all the rights and powers conferred by said will, and to receive and hold real and personal property including all the property now held by the trustees under the will of said Isabella Stewart Gardner, and to administer all such property upon the trusts and in conformity with the provisions of said will.

The amount of its capital stock (if any) is    *None*    dollars

The par value of its shares is                    *None*                    dollars

The number of its shares is                    *None*

We hereby waive all requirements of the General Laws of Massachusetts for notice of the first meeting for organization, and appoint the 23rd day of November 1936, at one o'clock P.M., at Fenway Court, Boston, Massachusetts, as the time and place for holding said first meeting.

**In Witness Whereof** we have hereto signed our names  
this 23rd day of November in the year nineteen hundred and  
thirty-six.

NAME	RESIDENCE (City or town; street and number)
William C. Endicott	59 Ingersoll St., Danvers, Mass.
Francis L. Higginson	Cherry St., Wenham, Mass.
Grafton D. Cushing	45 East 66th St., N. Y. C.
T. Jefferson Coolidge	35 Lapland St., Brookline
Richard C. Paine	325 Heath St., Brookline, Mass.
Olga E. Monks	51 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
Arthur Pope	11 Lowell St., Cambridge, Mass.



# CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Be it known** *That whereas* William C. Endicott (deceased), Francis L. Higginson, Olga E. Monks, T. Jefferson Coolidge, Grafton D. Cushing, Richard C. Paine and Arthur Pope have associated themselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the name of

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED,  
for the purpose of the following:—To conduct the museum established by the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner and otherwise to carry out the charitable purposes contained in said will, and incidentally thereto to act in any manner under said will with all the rights and powers conferred by said will, and to receive and hold real and personal property including all the property now held by the trustees under the will of said Isabella Stewart Gardner, and to administer all such property upon the trusts and in conformity with the provisions of said will; and have complied with the provisions of the Statutes of this Commonwealth in such case made and provided, as appears from the Articles of Organization of said corporation, duly approved by the Commissioner of Corporations and Taxation and recorded in this office:

**Now, therefore,** I, Frederic W. Cook, Secretary of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, **Do hereby Certify** that said William C. Endicott (deceased), Francis L. Higginson, Olga E. Monks, T. Jefferson Coolidge, Grafton D. Cushing, Richard C. Paine and Arthur Pope, their associates and successors, are legally organized and established as, and are hereby made, an existing corporation as of November 28, 1936, under the name of THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, with the powers, rights and privileges and subject to the limitations, duties and restrictions, which by law appertain thereto.

**Witness** my official signature hereunto subscribed, and the Great Seal of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts hereunto affixed, this twenty-third day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six.

F. W. COOK

*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

[Seal]

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### *Chapter 126—Laws of 1937*

**An Act** authorizing THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, to hold additional real and personal estate.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, a charitable institution organized under the general laws relating to charitable corporations to carry out the charitable provisions contained in the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner, may hold real and personal estate to an amount not exceeding twelve million dollars notwithstanding the limitation provided by section nine of chapter one hundred and eighty of the General Laws, which estate shall be devoted to the purposes of said institution as provided in said section nine.

*Approved March 23, 1937.*

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## PROBATE COURT

SUFFOLK, SS.

THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, of Boston, Suffolk County, a Massachusetts Corporation, is appointed trustee of certain estate given in trust as a Museum for the education and enjoyment of the public forever under the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner, late of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, deceased, testate, which will was proved and allowed on the twenty-first day of August A.D. 1924, by said Court, and is now of record in this Court, to act in place of William C. Endicott, deceased, Grafton D. Cushing, Olga E. Monks, Richard C. Paine, T. Jefferson Coolidge, Arthur Pope and Francis L. Higginson (resigned).

And you are required to make and return to said Probate Court, within three months from the date hereof, a true inventory of all real and personal estate belonging to it as trustee, which at the time of the making of such inventory shall have come to its possession or knowledge;

To manage and dispose of all such estate, and faithfully to discharge its trust in relation thereto, according to law and the will of said testatrix;

To render, upon oath, a true account of the property in its hands, and of the management and disposition thereof, at least once a year until its trust is fulfilled, unless excused therefrom in any year by said Court; and

At the expiration of its trust, to settle its account in said Court, and pay over and deliver all the estate and effects remaining in its hands, or due from it on such settlement, to the person or persons entitled thereto.

**Witness,** William M. Prest, Esquire, Judge of said Court, at Boston, this 24th day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six.

ARTHUR W. SULLIVAN, *Register.*



# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

*Acts of the Year 1943*

## *Chapter 279*

**An Act** to Exempt from Taxation the Real Estate in Boston of THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, Trustee under the Will of Isabella Stewart Gardner.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

The real estate, hereinafter described, located in the city of Boston and held by THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED, as trustee under the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner, shall be exempt from taxation beginning January first, nineteen hundred and forty-three, and continuing so long as the museum, known as the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, is operated by said corporation for the education and enjoyment of the public. Said real estate includes the building housing said museum and is bounded northwesterly by Worthington street; northeasterly by the Fenway; southeasterly by Evans Way; southwesterly by land now or formerly of Carol H. Powers et al., one hundred and twenty-one hundredths feet; and northwesterly thirty-two and sixty-nine hundredths feet and southwesterly eighty-four and eighty-nine hundredths feet by land now or formerly of Harold J. Coolidge et al., Trustees; containing about sixty-six thousand, seven hundred and ninety-four square feet.

*Approved May 14, 1943.*



THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER  
MUSEUM, INCORPORATED  
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

The officers of this corporation shall consist of a board of seven Trustees, a presiding officer to be known as the President of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated, a Vice-President of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated, a financial officer to be known as the Treasurer of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated, and a recording officer to be known as the Secretary of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated.

ARTICLE II

The Trustees shall have the right to resign, and upon the death or resignation of any of them the remainder shall have the right to fill the vacancy or vacancies by the election of a new member or members.

ARTICLE III

The Trustees shall have general control of the property of the corporation and shall have power to appoint from time to time such agents as they may deem necessary for the appropriate conduct of the affairs of the corporation, subject to the provisions of the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner.

ARTICLE IV

The Trustees shall, at the annual meeting, choose from their number a President of the Corporation to hold office until the next annual meeting.

## ARTICLE V

The Trustees shall, at the annual meeting, choose from their number a Vice-President of the Corporation, to hold office until the next annual meeting. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to preside at meetings of the Trustees in the absence of the President. The Vice-President may also hold the office of Treasurer or Secretary if thereto elected.

## ARTICLE VI

The Trustees shall, at the annual meeting, choose from their number, a Treasurer of the Corporation, to hold office until the next annual meeting. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep the financial records of the Corporation and report thereon to the Trustees. The Treasurer may also hold the office of Secretary if thereto elected.

## ARTICLE VII

The Trustees shall, at the annual meeting, choose from their number a Secretary of the Corporation to hold office until the next annual meeting. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of the meetings of the Trustees and to give the requisite notice thereof.

## ARTICLE VIII

A vacancy occurring in any of the offices of the Corporation may be filled at any regular or special meeting of the Trustees, the officer so elected to hold office until the next annual meeting.

## ARTICLE IX

The Trustees shall have power to act on all questions by a majority of their number. The Trustees shall have the right to put any securities in the names of two or more of

their number, either individually or as Trustees of this Corporation, and the Trustees so named, or their survivors or survivor, shall have power to assign and transfer such securities, and to execute powers of attorney, proxies to vote, dividend orders, subscriptions and other instruments relating to such securities. No Trustee shall be liable for retaining bonds or securities unregistered, for leaving securities in the possession or control of any other of the Trustees, for any error of judgment, or for anything except his own wilful personal default.

#### ARTICLE X

An annual meeting of the Trustees shall be held at Boston on the second Monday of February in each year. Special meetings may be held at any time, either in Boston or elsewhere in the Commonwealth, upon the request of any of the Trustees. The Secretary shall give notice thereof to each Trustee, either personally or by mail, at least three days prior to the time of such meeting, or said notice may be given by the President, but any meeting of the Trustees at any place at which all shall be present shall be valid without any previous notice thereof.

#### ARTICLE XI

A notice of any meeting of the Trustees, mailed to addresses furnished by them, shall be sufficient notice.

#### ARTICLE XII

The seal of the corporation shall consist of a circular impression bearing the corporate name and the year of incorporation and a design representing a phoenix surmounted by a helmet with the motto *C'est mon plaisir*.



### ARTICLE XIII

The By-Laws may be amended in any manner not incompatible with the due administration of the trusts set up in the will of Isabella Stewart Gardner, at any regular or special meeting, provided that notice of such intended amendment shall be given in the call for the meeting.

## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT



### TO THE TRUSTEES:

As in the case of last year, the attendance showed another drop, all of which again occurred on Sundays, as the week-day figures continued to show a slight increase over the previous year.

Beside our usual number of educational groups, we were glad to be able to welcome at special openings several other important groups including the wives of the clergy of the Episcopal Convention.

The renovations and replacements which are mentioned in the Director's report are most satisfactory, particularly the wall coverings.

On February 23, 1903, Mrs. Gardner opened Fenway Court to the public for the first time. To observe the fiftieth anniversary of that event, the Trustees decided to open the Museum on the evening of February 23, 1953, for public view and to have music but not to have a formal reception; and to limit the numbers to 450, which is the capacity of the Tapestry Room where the music would be heard, tickets to be issued to applicants in order of application.

The income of the Museum from General Funds showed an increase of \$1,660.67, compared with the previous year. There was also a moderate increase in the receipts from sales at the Museum.

The total expenses decreased \$19,373.16, leaving a net balance from all income over expenses of \$84,828.63, an increase of \$21,416.64 over last year. These expenses include the renovations and replacements mentioned above and in the Director's report. The final result, after transferring the

customary \$10,000 to our own Pension Fund and providing for amortization of bond premiums, was a surplus for the year of \$71,989.14, compared with \$51,934.01 for 1951.

The book value of the Pension Fund as of December 31, 1952, with the addition of the above-mentioned \$10,000 was \$319,870.16.

The Museum continues to be very fortunate in the excellence of its managing and operating staff, both at the Museum itself and with the greenhouse and gardens.

F. L. HIGGINSON

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR



### TO THE TRUSTEES:

In what was issued in 1950 as Volume I of a publication called *Masterpieces*, the editors stated that they had invited leading art critics and curators of the United States to nominate the world's greatest paintings. According to the replies they received the critics and curators considered Titian's "Rape of Europa" in this Museum the greatest picture in a public collection in this country, and with Titian's "Bacchus and Ariadne" in the National Gallery, London, their choice for fourth place among the greatest paintings anywhere in the world. In this connection it is interesting to recall that during Mrs. Gardner's lifetime people often said that her creation, Fenway Court, was more beautiful than any of the works of art it contained and her achievement greater than that of any of the artists represented in the collection. Even admitting that this praise may be somewhat extravagant, it remains true that from the beginning Fenway Court was considered beautiful and it is the peculiar function of this Museum not merely to exhibit works of art, but also to be beautiful. The past twenty-eight years have demonstrated that Mrs. Gardner was fully justified in trying to arrange that the work of art she had created should remain as nearly as possible as she left it. Certain things had to be done; chairs had to be provided for visitors, and barriers, as inconspicuous as possible, had to be set up to control somewhat the movements of the public. Such things undoubtedly detract from the beauty of the Museum, but we have constant evidence from visitors that the beauty has not been seriously impaired. The numerous organizations



that arrange for group visits always give the unique beauty of the Museum as their reason for wanting to come here.

The most important alteration this year has been the replacement of the faded and ragged brocade on the walls of the Dutch Room by new brocade, specially woven in 1951 by Scalamandré Silks, Inc., New York. Irving & Casson did the complicated work of putting the new brocade on the walls. Scalamandré has now woven for us a copy of the blue stripe silk in the Blue Room, to be used on the walls of that room. They also copied for us a green silk used in upholstering a sofa and eight chairs in the Little Salon and supplied us with other silks used in that room. The upholstery work was done by William A. Robart. Six Venetian lanterns in the Cloister have been electrified, giving a little light where it was much needed on dark afternoons. The white woodwork in the Raphael and Titian Rooms has been painted, and the ceilings in the Early Italian Room, Raphael Room, Short Gallery, Little Salon, Long Gallery and Chapel have been washed and whitened. The secretaries' office has been painted and equipped with new furniture, replacing heterogeneous makeshifts. Rubber tile flooring has been laid in that office and in the Worthington Street vestibule and adjacent hallway.

For practical efficiency, the Museum kitchen was moved in January to the second floor of the office wing, giving more direct access to the Dutch Room where tea is served to such special groups as make the necessary arrangements for it. During the year twenty groups, including 1,522 people, have been served tea. Of these groups one, consisting of the wives of bishops and other clergy attending the Triennial Convention of the Episcopal Church, was the guest of the Museum. For them the Museum was specially opened on Wednesday, September 17. There was another special

opening, with tea, on May 28, for the Boston Tuberculosis Association; and the Museum was open in the evening of May 26 for the New England Opera Theater Guild. Boris Goldovsky gave a Chopin recital, and refreshments were furnished by the Guild. The Museum was also opened on Wednesday, June 18, for the Municipal Finance Officers Association, to whom tea was served.

Altogether 141 special groups totaling 5,362 people visited the Museum. Fifteen groups came from public schools and colleges in Boston; 32 from public schools and colleges outside Boston; 22 from private schools, and 72 from churches and other organizations. Fifty-three of these groups, including 2,701 people, received guidance, and 1,448 people took advantage of the guidance offered at eleven o'clock on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. The total attendance on weekdays was barely over that of 1951; the Sunday attendance was 2,215 less. In view of the fact that we have no special exhibitions or other special inducements to attract visitors, nothing but the permanent collection and the beauty of the Museum, it is gratifying that the weekday attendance holds up so well. The decline on Sundays can be partly explained by bad weather, but chiefly by the constantly increasing inducements to spend Sunday afternoon elsewhere, especially to stay at home and watch television. The attendance figures are as follows:

*Calendar Year 1952 (11 months; closed in August)*

Weekdays	43,439	increase over previous year	118
Sundays	37,613	decrease from “ “	2,215
	<u>81,052</u>	“ “ “ “	<u>2,097</u>

Mr. Walter H. Siple is again conducting a class on seven Thursday mornings, his subject this winter being “People



You Meet at Fenway Court: Portraits and Personalities on the Walls of the Gardner Museum."

Mr. Jakstas has relined and cleaned "A Lady in Black" by Tintoretto and "A Bearded Man in Black" by Moroni; the panel, "Adam and Eve," influenced by Lucas Cranach, has been strengthened and cleaned, and the wood carving of "St. Martin and the Beggar" has been cleaned and restored. Similar treatment was given to the Venetian painted writing desk and cupboards in the MacKnight Room. Less drastic cleaning was given the portrait of Mr. Gardner by Mancini and the "Double Portrait" by Rembrandt. In addition, ten frames were repaired.

At the Spring Flower Show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, a gold medal and a cultural certificate were awarded the Museum for a large group of cinerarias, and first prizes were awarded for small groups of amaryllis, cineraria, cyclamen, and stock; the amaryllis also received a cultural certificate. The skill of John F. Sullivan, head gardener at the greenhouse, is constantly praised by professionals and amateurs. Largely because of the fine quality of his work, Mr. L. Sherman Adams has given the Museum a collection of superlative cymbidium. In fact, all the men at the greenhouse and the men who take care of the Court and the outdoor garden at the Museum know their work and are devoted to it.

In accordance with the provision in Mrs. Gardner's will, on the 14th of April a Memorial Service was conducted by Father Williams, Superior of the Society of St. John the Evangelist. Besides the clergy and choir, nine people were present.

In March, Mr. Mason and I held the usual auditions in New York; of the musicians heard by one or both of us, sixteen have been engaged for Sunday appearances during

the season from September 1, 1952, to July 31, 1953. During the past year, two choruses, one string ensemble, three string quartets, two trios, eight violin soloists, nineteen pianists, and fifteen singers have taken part in our Sunday afternoon programs; sixty-four soloists and two choruses took part in 141 weekday programs.

On May 31, Mrs. Marjorie T. Deininger resigned; she came to the Museum July 16, 1945, to do secretarial work and proved to be exceptionally efficient. We all regretted the loss of such a competent and agreeable co-worker. After two unsuccessful trials, her position has now been filled by Miss Evelyn Burr. Melvin Cassidy, who had been a night watchman and utility man for three years, left June 23 to work at the Navy Yard; his place has been taken by Michael Finnerty. An elderly guard, Victor Ericson, whose health compelled him to stop working, has been replaced by John Hahn.

### *Sales*

Catalogue of Exhibited Paintings and Drawings, Hendy	49
Isabella Stewart Gardner and Fenway Court, Carter	138
General Catalogue, Longstreet	38
Gardner Collection	154
Reproductions of Paintings, Pope-Hatch	1
Museum Guides	4,949
Photographs	602
Color Prints	3,232
Postcards, monochrome	8,675
“ , colored 5¢	36,294
“ , “ 10¢	990
Kodachrome	1
Christmas Folders	630
Photo Views	678

\**Receipts*

Sales	\$4,395.77
Teas	1,526.40
	<hr/> \$5,922.17

Our Superintendent considers the attendance record of Museum employees extraordinarily good; we certainly are not plagued by absenteeism. I believe that all the staff *like* to be here; the guards *like* their contacts with the public, who frequently speak enthusiastically of their courtesy and helpfulness. For the loyalty of the staff and the friendly backing of the Trustees, I should like once more to express my gratitude.

Respectfully submitted,

MORRIS CARTER,  
*Director*

\* Receipts at the Museum are offset to some extent by expenditures on the account of the Treasurer.



# REPORT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS



*To The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated,  
Trustee Under The Will of Isabella Stewart Gardner:*

We have examined the balance sheet of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated, Trustee under the Will of Isabella Stewart Gardner, as of December 31, 1952 and the related statement of income received, expenditures and appropriations for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

The securities owned at December 31, 1952 were confirmed direct to us by the custodian, Fiduciary Trust Company. We examined copies of brokers' advices or other evidence in support of all security transactions reflected on the books and satisfied ourselves as to the amount of the gain or loss from sales. Also, on December 23, 1952, we inspected the securities owned by the Museum as at that date.

The amount of cash on deposit at December 31, 1952 was reconciled by us with confirmations which we received direct from the depositories and included the following balances held as uninvested funds by the Fiduciary Trust Company:

General fund investment	\$6,971.02
Pension fund	61.99
Current working assets	1,331.25
	<hr/>
	\$8,364.26
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Cash on hand at the Museum offices was counted by us during the course of our examination and reconciled with the balances shown by the books as on hand at December 31, 1952.

Income received from investments held by all the funds has been verified independently by us and is correctly reflected in the attached statements. Income and expenses are not accrued in the accounts of the Museum until received or paid, except in respect of United States Savings Bonds purchased on a discount basis, on which interest has been accrued to the extent of the increment in the redemption value. Receipts at the Museum from sales of catalogues, etc., have not been verified by us but we have made tests of the procedure followed in recording these receipts and found it to be satisfactory. We examined approved vouchers or other evidence of approval in support of all cash disbursements for the year.

\* \* \* \* \*

In our opinion, the accompanying statements present fairly, on the basis indicated, the financial position of The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Incorporated, Trustee, as at December 31, 1952 and a summary of its income received, expenditures and appropriations for the year then ended, in conformity in all material respects with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

PRICE WATERHOUSE & Co.

Boston, Massachusetts  
January 19, 1953





THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPORATED  
TRUSTEE UNDER THE WILL OF ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER

STATEMENT OF INCOME RECEIVED, EXPENDITURES AND  
APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31, 1952

(With comparative figures for the previous year)

	Year ending December 31,	
	1952	1951
<i>Income received:</i>		
Dividends on capital stocks	\$225,017.90	\$226,440.00
Interest on bonds (not including interest on Pension Fund investments)	48,138.03	45,055.26
Sales of catalogues, post cards, etc. at Museum	4,505.22	4,122.41
	<u>\$277,661.15</u>	<u>\$275,617.67</u>
<i>Expenditures:</i>		
Museum operating expenses:		
Guards and watchmen	\$ 29,389.98	\$ 28,026.53
Plants and flowers	28,940.69	33,088.18
Music	14,359.01	13,645.94
Care of collection and paintings	6,822.73	12,315.84
Maintenance, including charges for extraor- dinary repairs, replacements, etc.	47,881.95	65,919.84
Administrative salaries and expenses	29,374.01	27,198.21
Sundry operating expenses	4,235.74	5,125.35
Insurance	7,925.71	4,108.20
Compensation of managing trustees	7,000.00	7,000.00
Fiduciary Trust Company—agent	6,000.00	6,000.00
Trustees' fees	520.00	540.00
State Street office expenses	4,868.99	3,410.00
Legal and accounting services	1,831.00	1,475.00
Miscellaneous general and administrative expenses	615.46	660.36
Social security taxes	1,395.13	1,287.88
Cost of printing post cards, etc. for sale at Museum	1,672.12	2,404.35
	<u>\$192,832.52</u>	<u>\$212,205.68</u>
Excess of income over expenditures	\$ 84,828.63	\$ 63,411.99
Appropriation for Pension Fund	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Amortization of bond premiums	2,839.49	1,477.98
	<u>\$ 12,839.49</u>	<u>\$ 11,477.98</u>
Excess of income received over expendi- tures and appropriations, carried to cur- rent surplus account—per balance sheet	<u>\$ 71,989.14</u>	<u>\$ 51,934.01</u>







*Fifty copies of this book were printed for THE  
ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, INCORPO-  
RATED, by The Anthoensen Press, Portland, Maine*











